



Hon Tony Kelly MLC  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Lands  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 16 June 2010

### **Funding for Aboriginal heritage**

The NSW Government has awarded nearly \$75,000 in funding to support four projects which will conserve, celebrate and promote increased understanding of the State's Aboriginal heritage.

Planning Minister Tony Kelly announced that the funding had been awarded as part of the 2009-2011 NSW Heritage Grants program.

"Aboriginal heritage includes those stories, places and objects of great cultural significance to indigenous communities in NSW, as well as the wider community," Mr Kelly said.

"They are also of immense value to the wider community as they provide knowledge about - and links to - our state's cultural and environmental history.

NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Paul Lynch welcomed the announcement.

"This funding will support a diverse range of research and education projects which will shed further light on our State's rich Aboriginal heritage for the benefit of the entire State, both now and into the future," Mr Lynch said.

A total of \$74,500 in funding had been awarded to four projects, including:

- \$30,000 to the Dictionary of Sydney Trust and Tranby Aboriginal College for Aboriginal input into the Digital Dictionary of Sydney.
- \$15,000 to the Eastern Zone Gujaga Aboriginal Corporation on behalf of the Garrara Cooperative: Centre for Indigenous History, Culture and Language Ltd to collect information, research, record and register historical Aboriginal places and sites around the Botany Bay area.
- \$2,000 to the Brewarrina Business Centre Cooperative Ltd to erect temporary interpretive signage at the Brewarrina Fish Traps.
- \$27,500 to Eurobodalla Shire Council on a dollar-for-dollar basis to undertake research into the former Historic Government Aboriginal Reservations (1861-1969), develop an Aboriginal timeline for the local area and also research totemic species.

Mr Kelly said the projects were recommended by the Heritage Council's Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Panel, which provides advice on managing and conserving heritage places of significance to Aboriginal communities.

"Applications for an Aboriginal heritage grant can be lodged with the Heritage Branch at any time during the year and are considered on a quarterly basis by the Heritage Council of NSW," Mr Kelly said.

"Individuals, community groups and local councils are all eligible for grants for projects which conserve, promote and increase understanding of Aboriginal heritage in their local community."



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### ***Additional information:***

#### **Aboriginal Input to the Digital Dictionary of Sydney**

The Dictionary of Sydney Trust and Tranby Aboriginal College have been awarded \$30,000 for Aboriginal input into the Digital Dictionary of Sydney. The project will document the history and culture of Sydney's Aboriginal people in a series of thematic essays for inclusion in the Dictionary of Sydney. The Dictionary is a multilayered digital resource developed by Sydney City Council and the University of Sydney which covers all aspects of Sydney's history since human habitation.

#### **This Is Where They Lived: South Eastern Sydney Historical Aboriginal Project**

The Eastern Zone Gujaga Aboriginal Corporation on behalf of the Garrara Cooperative: Centre for Indigenous History, Culture and Language Ltd have been awarded \$15,000 to collect information, research, record and register historical Aboriginal places and sites around the Botany Bay area. The project, which is called 'This Is Where They Lived: South Eastern Sydney Historical Aboriginal Project' will help inform the local community of the historical contributions of Aboriginal people in the area. In doing so, it will provide an Aboriginal perspective to the area's history, which is most commonly identified by the wider community as the place where European colonisation began in Australia.

#### **Brewarrina Fish Traps Temporary Interpretive Signage**

The Brewarrina Business Centre Cooperative Ltd has been awarded \$2,000 to erect temporary interpretive signage at the Brewarrina Fish Traps. The bilingual signs – in English and the Ngemba language group, which is the local indigenous language – will inform locals and visitors about significance of the traps, as well as the works that are currently being undertaken as part of the Conservation Management Plan to maintain the site.

#### **Eurobodalla Aboriginal Heritage Research and Interpretation Project**

Eurobodalla Shire Council has been awarded \$27,500 on a dollar-for-dollar basis to undertake research into the former Historic Government Aboriginal Reservations (1861-1969). The Aboriginal Heritage Research and Interpretation Project will undertake research into the relationship between totemic species and the Aboriginal cultural landscape, and develop a display of the Aboriginal Timeline. It will therefore serve to promote a greater understanding of the impact of reserves of the Aboriginal people, as well as the importance of totemic species and their habitat.